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*Distinctive Characters of Teeth.*—Dr. HARRISON ALLEN proposed to distinguish the buccal from the palatal side of human upper molars by the presence of a sulcus upon the latter surfaces and its absence from the former. The bicuspid teeth were found to present crowns having an anterior and posterior limiting ridge upon their grinding surfaces. These ridges are inconstant in the molars, notably upon the posterior edges of their crowns. Upon the anterior edges they, as a rule, are seen, and recall the peculiarity of the similar teeth of *Cynocephalus* and *Semnopithecus*. When a human molar exhibits the antero-palatal cusp united to the antero-buccal cusp by a well-pronounced limiting ridge it was thought to be an instance of reversion of the human to the quadrumanous type.

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## FEBRUARY 12.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-one persons present.

The following papers were presented for publication :—

“Notes on North American Caridea in the Museum of the Peabody Academy of Sciences at Salem, Mass.” By J. S. Kingsley

“Additions to Mr. Cooke’s paper on the Valsei of the United States.” By W. C. Stevenson, Jr.

The deaths of George T. Barker, Thomas P. Remington, and Wm. Welsh, members of the Academy, were announced.

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## FEBRUARY 19.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Thirty-three persons present.

*Foliaceous sepals in Hepatica.*—Mr. MARTINDALE exhibited a specimen of *Hepatica triloba* which he had collected near the mouth of the Wissahickon Creek, in April, 1877, all the flower stalks of which had produced leaves in the place of sepals similar in shape to those usually produced on the leaf stalks, but only about one-half their size; and then spoke of the causes of this change of condition. He stated that investigators in the study of this branch of the vegetable kingdom had long since attributed any deviation from the normal character as due, not to a want of vitality, but to a superabundance of vitality, and claimed that this specimen was a fair illustration, and a confirmation of that theory, it being the largest specimen he had ever seen. The great